

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2005

Domestic primary aluminum production in August was 208,076 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate was 6,712 t, about 1% lower than that of the previous month and also 1% below the rate for August 2004. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to 88.06 cents per pound in August from 84.69 cents per pound in July, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) was relatively stable during August. The buying price range began the month at 59–61 cents per pound. On August 4, the price increased to 63–64 cents per pound and remained at this level

until August 30, when it decreased a penny to 62–63 cents per pound.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased in September to 86.45 cents per pound. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs trended downward during August. On August 7, the price range decreased to 60–62 cents per pound. On August 13, the price range narrowed to 60–61 cents per pound; and on August 19, the price range decreased further to 59–60 cents per pound and remained at this level through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2004 ^p	2,516	1,820	1,200	3,020	3,250	938	4,180	9,720	1,470
2004:									
August	210	158	107	265	225	87	312	787	1,470
September	203	152	105	257	279	84	364	824	1,420
October	211	159	106	265	286	84	370	847	1,390
November	207	149	103	252	272	84	356	815	1,420
December	211	138	94	231	294	82	377	819	1,470
January-August	1,684	1,230	789	2,020	2,110	603	2,720	6,420	1,440
2005:									
January	209	163 ^r	95	258 ^r	334	90	425	892 ^r	1,510
February	191	157 ^r	91	248 ^r	289	97	386	825 ^r	1,450
March	214	171 ^r	96	267 ^r	262	105	367	847 ^r	1,480
April	211	162 ^r	95	257 ^r	372	104	476	943 ^r	1,500
May	214	159 ^r	98	257 ^r	372	104	476	947 ^r	1,520
June	206	153 ^r	96	249 ^r	324	107	431	886 ^r	1,500
July	210	170 ^r	96 ^r	267 ^r	324	104	428	904	1,550
August	208	167	96	262	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-August	1,663	1,300	763	2,070	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
2004 ^p	1,680	1,240	754	668	1,080	1,010	110	98	5	5	3,630	3,020
2004:												
August	147	109	67	60	95	89	8	7	(2)	(2)	318	265
September	143	105	67	59	91	84	9	8	(2)	(2)	309	257
October	148	110	64	56	97	91	9	8	(2)	(2)	319	265
November	145	107	64	56	87	81	9	8	(2)	(2)	305	252
December	132	97	61	54	77	72	8	7	(2)	(2)	279	231
January-August	1,110	821	499	443	729	681	75	67	3	3	2,420	2,020
2005:												
January	147 ^r	106 ^r	64	57	93 ^r	87 ^r	9	8	(2)	(2)	313 ^r	258 ^r
February	146 ^r	105 ^r	63	56	84 ^r	79 ^r	8	7	1	1	301 ^r	248 ^r
March	150 ^r	108 ^r	67	60	97 ^r	91 ^r	8	7	1	1	323 ^r	267 ^r
April	146 ^r	106 ^r	66	59	90 ^r	84 ^r	8	7	1	1	311 ^r	257 ^r
May	151 ^r	109 ^r	69	61	85 ^r	80 ^r	8	7	1	1	313 ^r	257 ^r
June	138 ^r	103 ^r	67	60	84 ^r	79 ^r	9	8	1	1	299 ^r	249 ^r
July	141 ^r	102	92 ^r	83	79 ^r	74	8	7	1	1	321 ^r	267 ^r
August	151	109	77	69	82	77	8	7	(2)	(2)	319	262
January-August	1,170	848	565	505	694	651	66	58	6	6	2,500	2,070

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN AUGUST 2005¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	126,000	151,000	90,800	109,000
Integrated aluminum companies	77,500	77,500	69,200	69,200
Independent mill fabricators	68,100	81,800	63,900	76,700
Foundries	6,800	8,160	5,990	7,190
Other consumers	355	426	355	426
Total	279,000	319,000	230,000	262,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN AUGUST 2005¹

(Metric tons)

	August				January-August ²	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	23,500 ^r	77,100	75,800	24,800	499,000	501,000
Can stock clippings	2,930 ^r	15,800	17,700	1,000	221,000	223,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	8,660 ^r	24,000	24,200	8,490	188,000	188,000
Casting	1,870	7,170	7,810	1,220	64,100	64,200
Borings and turnings	8,620 ^r	13,100	13,300	8,480	109,000	105,000
Dross and skimmings	4,700 ^r	39,400	39,400	4,710	301,000	301,000
Total new scrap	50,300 ^r	177,000	178,000	48,700	1,380,000	1,380,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	6,110 ^r	15,500	15,900	5,750	85,600	84,000
Used Extrusion	137 ^r	295	295	137	2,360	2,360
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	3,160 ^r	63,700	64,100	2,750	497,000	499,000
Other wrought products	5,690 ^r	8,230	8,230	5,690	119,000	119,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	3,430 ^r	10,600	11,200	2,840	86,300	85,900
Total old scrap	18,500 ^r	98,300	99,700	17,200	790,000	790,000
Sweated pig	313 ^r	738	749	303	5,720	6,010
Total all classes	69,100 ^r	276,000	279,000	66,200	2,180,000	2,180,000

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2005^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	August				January-August ³	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	5,320 [†]	1,170	1,380	5,110	12,600	10,300
380 and variations	3,900	17,800	18,900	2,710	133,000	135,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	999 [†]	1,840	1,840	994	14,800	14,900
No. 319 and variations	3,500 [†]	6,240	7,110	2,620	52,300	52,100
F-132 alloy and variations	738 [†]	1,890	1,880	745	14,600	14,700
Al-Zn alloys	124 [†]	155	166	114	1,330	1,350
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	39	46	46	39	367	367
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	45 [†]	325	325	45	2,600	2,600
Other ⁴	9,290 [†]	5,520	7,560	7,250	49,400	48,500
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	11,700 [†]	25,100	25,400	11,400	197,000	197,000
Total all alloys	35,600 [†]	60,000	64,600	31,000	478,000	476,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	10,400	XX	XX	98,100	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,920	XX	XX	17,900	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	635	XX	XX	5,410	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	47,000	XX	XX	357,000	XX

[†]Revised. XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revised data from previous months.

⁴Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2005¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Argentina	6,550	37,900	6	2,940	--	--	6,560	40,800
Australia	8,120	44,000	7	85	--	1,210	8,130	45,300
Bahrain	2,630	3,790	930	8,890	--	--	3,560	12,700
Belgium	--	18	1,920	8,350	--	--	1,920	8,370
Brazil	12,700	124,000	2,640	21,700	--	126	15,400	146,000
Canada	163,000	1,080,000	42,400	300,000	23,000	176,000	229,000	1,550,000
China	1,590	55,700	11,600	68,900	--	126	13,200	125,000
France	3	571	708	4,370	--	37	711	4,980
Germany	25	1,380	10,200	65,900	31	220	10,200	67,500
Hungary	--	--	420	2,290	--	--	420	2,290
Italy	--	366	292	1,650	--	--	292	2,020
Japan	19	395	2,000	11,800	33	328	2,050	12,500
Korea, Republic of	--	52	247	1,830	--	--	247	1,880
Mexico	--	--	1,910	12,800	8,450	64,000	10,400	76,800
Netherlands	36	311	301	1,640	--	--	337	1,950
Norway	92	4,060	--	66	--	2	92	4,130
Russia	79,200	610,000	5,570	38,300	118	4,070	84,900	652,000
South Africa	16,400	57,100	3,590	28,200	--	--	20,000	85,300
Spain	--	32	334	1,960	--	106	334	2,100
Sweden	--	--	324	2,000	--	--	324	2,000
Switzerland	516	666	409	2,230	--	--	925	2,900
Tajikistan	13,600	96,700	--	--	--	--	13,600	96,700
United Arab Emirates	5,270	37,500	--	172	14	469	5,290	38,200
United Kingdom	86	20,100	581	4,670	251	1,370	918	26,200
Venezuela	11,300	75,800	566	7,610	519	7,500	12,300	90,900
Other	2,630	29,400	17,000	112,000	3,240	29,600	22,900	171,000
Total	324,000	2,280,000	104,000	710,000	35,700	285,000	463,000	3,270,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2005¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Australia	94	254	110	948	9	21	214	1,220
Azerbaijan	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	2
Belgium	1	582	578	4,190	--	214	578	4,990
Brazil	5	142	605	5,210	60	1,440	670	6,790
Canada	7,780	71,700	37,300	289,000	11,100	89,100	56,200	450,000
China	132	242	4,900	22,000	47,900	295,000	52,900	317,000
Czech Republic	--	--	8	191	--	--	8	191
Dominican Republic	2	10	47	257	--	--	49	267
France	169	821	610	4,720	--	45	780	5,590
Germany	69	459	696	4,830	18	256	783	5,540
Hong Kong	3	202	501	3,680	1,160	6,260	1,670	10,100
India	--	126	68	297	860	6,150	929	6,570
Israel	53	431	98	1,680	--	--	151	2,110
Italy	(2)	175	131	1,570	--	--	132	1,750
Japan	560	2,980	761	5,500	2,760	18,500	4,080	27,000
Korea, Republic of	34	707	1,080	8,490	10,700	78,500	11,800	87,700
Malaysia	(2)	16	114	4,960	--	47	114	5,020
Mexico	16,300	103,000	19,100	116,000	4,940	35,600	40,300	255,000
Netherlands	23	101	36	335	--	37	59	473
Russia	--	28	(2)	25	1	11	1	64
Saudi Arabia	8	8	2,930	18,900	--	--	2,940	18,900
Singapore	22	299	279	1,610	1	552	303	2,460
Spain	15	50	204	637	--	196	219	883
Sweden	--	9	22	241	--	--	22	250
Taiwan	24	182	883	5,230	4,550	30,300	5,450	35,700
Thailand	38	248	791	4,370	463	4,120	1,290	8,740
Ukraine	--	--	(2)	1	--	--	(2)	1
United Kingdom	24	226	1,440	9,370	10	153	1,470	9,740
Venezuela	--	12	71	899	--	21	71	932
Other	618	2,990	4,020	21,100	2,480	25,500	7,120	49,600
Total	25,900	186,000	77,300	537,000	87,000	592,000	190,000	1,310,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.